

What's New in the MPDC

FEBRUARY 25, 2002

MPDC EXPANDS RESERVE CORPS PROGRAM

In a new effort to boost the number of volunteers actively involved in crime prevention, the MPDC has dramatically expanded its Reserve Corps program. Uniformed Reserve officers have assisted the MPDC for more than five decades, performing a variety of law enforcement-related activities. In recent years, however, the number of Reserves has dwindled. To jump-start the program and make it more flexible and accessible to more volunteers, the MPDC has created a new, five-level structure for Reserve officers. Each class of officer receives a different level of training and is given appropriate responsibilities for that level. For example, the entry level (5th Class) requires only 20 hours of training that leads to commensurate responsibilities. For individuals interested in investing more time, additional training is available, making the member eligible for the next level with greater responsibilities. Reserve Officers are assigned to various units of the Department, with a particular emphasis on assigning volunteers to the PSAs where they live or work. Some Reserve Officers may work inside a district station, while others work side-by-side with sworn police officers directing traffic or performing front-line law enforcement activities. For complete details about the newly redesigned Reserve Corps program, including criteria and training, click on:

Interested in talking with someone about the Reserve Corps program? Call the MPDC Recruiting Office at 727-2767. Or start the application process on-line at:

mpdc.dc.gov/serv/programs/services_PRC.shtm#apply

Reserve Corps members have developed their own Web site. Learn more about the Reserves from the Reserves at:

www.copscops.com/reserves.html

mpdc.dc.gov/serv/programs/services_PRC.shtm

MPDC MEETS WITH ACLU, OTHER GROUPS TO DISCUSS VIDEO TECHNOLOGY

Chief Ramsey and other MPDC officials met this past week with representatives of the American Civil Liberties Union and other interested parties to discuss the Department's use of video technology in support of its public safety efforts. The Chief invited the groups to the MPDC's Joint Operations Command Center to demonstrate how the Department is using video to selectively monitor public spaces in DC that are possible targets for terrorism or other criminal activity. The session also allowed the groups to air their concerns about privacy rights, system security and guarding against abuse. The Chief assured the visitors that the Department is not engaged in tracking the movement of individuals or attempting to monitor private activities. The Chief acknowledged the need for the Department (and law enforcement, in general) to regularly update its policies so as to keep them current with new developments in technology. He invited the groups to participate in the process as the MPDC continues to upgrade its policies and procedures in this important area.

SPOTLIGHT ON ... OFFICE OF ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Office of Organizational Development was established in 1998 for the purpose of fostering public safety innovations within the MPDC, as well as our public safety partners and the communities we serve. Headed by Senior Executive Director Nola Joyce, OOD achieves its mission through activities such as research and resource development, policy and program development, crime prevention programs, training, and legislative services.

Among other units, OOD includes the Maurice T. Turner Jr., Institute of Police Science and the Policing for Prevention Unit, which develops and directs the MPDC's community policing activities. Learn more about the wide variety of services and programs offered by the Office of Organizational Development by going to:

mpdc.dc.gov/about/units/ood.shtm

Need the phone number or address of other MPDC units? Click on the Department's on-line directory at:

mpdc.dc.gov/about/contact/telephonedir.shtm

THE WEEK AHEAD

- Chief Ramsey will testify before the DC Council's Committee on the Judiciary, as part of an oversight hearing on MPDC performance in fiscal years 2001 and 2002, on Monday, February 25. The hearing begins at 2 pm at the Wilson Building.
- The four-week CWAVE (City-Wide Anti-Violence Event) basketball tournament continues this week. The tournament brings together youth and young adults from different neighborhoods for athletic competition and life-skills workshops. For more information: mpdc.dc.gov (Click on News Room)

MPDC INSPECTOR NAMED POLICE CHIEF IN ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Chief Ramsey this week congratulated MPDC Inspector Stephen Kuhn on being named chief of the Allentown (Pa.) Police Department. Kuhn is a 37-year law enforcement veteran who currently serves as MPDC's deputy director of quality assurance. He is the first person from outside the Lehigh Valley area to be named chief of Allentown's 225-officer police department. Noting that Kuhn is the third MPDC command official in the past year to be named police chief in another city, Ramsey said, "The Metropolitan Police Department is becoming increasingly recognized nationally as an agency with strong leaders who are ready to step up to the plate and become police chiefs in their own right." Former Assistant Chiefs William McManus and Rodney Monroe are now the chiefs in Dayton, Ohio, and Macon, Ga., respectively.

Information, ideas or comments about this service?

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Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with crimereports.com.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE
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